

people, and would be opposed to the independence of the family. It was proposed, however, that every person who required the service of the district visiting nurse should contribute to the common support of the nurse, and that obviated the danger. So it would be not only for those who were unable to pay anything that the district nurse existed, and he believed the district nurse was often a greater blessing in the community to those who could pay any amount towards the service. There were three reasons to put forward why they should establish a district nurse there. First, the self-protection of the community; second, that better sanitary and hygienic measures should be taught, and better ways of taking care of the helpless should be adopted; and third, the necessity they who believed in Christ were under of attending to work of this kind.

The news of the siege of Port Arthur which has reached this country through Reuter's Agency gives some idea of the horrors of the situation. Recently a Russian lieutenant, Prince Radziwill, accompanied by another officer, two civilians, and a lady, has arrived at Chi-fu from Port Arthur, having eluded the vigilance of the Japanese and bearing despatches and mails.

In an interview Prince Radziwill stated that the temper of the belligerents at Port Arthur had reached a merciless pitch. He had followed the operations in the South African War with the British, but until he had seen Port Arthur he had no idea that war could be so horrible. Even flags of truce and surrender are not respected by either belligerent, and the combatants are absolutely venomous in the fury of their antagonism. In a recent address to the garrison General Stoessel declared that the present temper of the Japanese made resistance to the last drop of blood a necessity, as if the fortress were entered the Japanese officers would undoubtedly be unable to restrain their men from massacre. For this reason the Russian commander is making no objection to civilians departing. Three hundred women engaged in hospital work were advised to leave, but they replied that they would face massacre rather than desert their posts. Madame Stoessel takes the lead in the Red Cross work, and she is in almost constant attendance at the hospital. In the midst of this exhausting work she finds time to aid orphans and widows and superintend the making of bandages. The soldiers consider her their guardian angel.

After September 23rd, 1904, the office of the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives, of which Her Majesty the Queen has recently become Patron, will be at Dacre House, New Tothill Street, Westminster, London, S.W., instead of at 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C. The Secretary is Miss Gill.

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE LATE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—We regret to record the death of the late Director-General of the Army Medical Service, Surgeon-General Jameson, O.B., Hon. Surgeon to the King. He entered the service in 1857, and proceeded to Canada, and afterwards to the West Indies, where he was promoted surgeon "in consideration of his highly-meritorious services during an epidemic of yellow fever in Trinidad." He had charge of the British ambulance in the Franco-German War, and was present at the siege of Paris. He retired in 1901.

A NEW DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ROYAL NAVY.—Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets Herbert MacKay Ellis, R.N., took over the duties of the Director-General of the Medical Department of the Royal Navy in succession to Sir Henry F. Norbury, K.C.B., on September 12th. He received his medical education at St. George's Hospital, and entered the service in September, 1875; he served with the Royal Marine Artillery throughout the campaign in Egypt in 1882, being present at the two engagements at Kassassin and at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir; for his services in Egypt he was promoted to staff surgeon. He was fleet surgeon in H.M.S. *Victoria* when she was sunk off Tripoli in collision with the *Cumperdown* in 1893.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY.—The Council of the London Hospital Saturday Fund has fixed October 15th as the date for the "special" Hospital Saturday collection this year.

THE INTERNATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS CONFERENCE.—The report of the International Tuberculosis Conference, which took place last May, appears in the monthly review of the Central International Bureau for combating tuberculosis.

A SURGICAL CONGRESS.—The first Congress of the Société Internationale de Chirurgie will be held in Brussels in September, 1905, under the presidency of Professor T. Kocher, of Berne.

HOSPITAL SHIPS IN NAVAL WARFARE.—An international conference is to be held next year at The Hague to draw up regulations with regard to hospital ships in naval warfare. The chief object will be to revise existing international rules so as to leave no doubt with regard to the neutrality of hospital ships. The need of such ships in warfare is now conceded. Japan has two, and Russia recently commissioned the *Orel*. The British Royal Navy at present possesses one—the *Maine*, which was equipped by a Committee of American ladies for service during the South African War, and is now attached to the Mediterranean squadron.

ANTITOXIN TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.—Dr. MacCombie, Medical Superintendent of the Brook Hospital, Shooter's Hill, reports that during the past seven years the total number of cases treated in the hospital has been 4,812. Not a single death has occurred among the cases that came under treatment.

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